A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A statement[a] furnishing the information is appended.
(*d*) No; not necessary.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Referring to the Appendix, page 513, I find that two of the three people appointed changed their posts within about a month. I want to know why they were shifted so soon after their first appointment and taken to Madras? Is it to enable these favoured men to secure appointments in Madras to which they would have been not qualified?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Notice, Sir."

Establishment of co-operative societies for Muslims in Salem and other districts.

*1200 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to question No. 648 answered on 26th November 1928 whether the Government have since received the report stated to have been called for in the answer to clauses (*a*) to (*d*) of that question?

A.—A statement[b] furnishing the information is appended.

Action taken on the Townshend Committee Report.

*1201 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to the answer to clauses (*f*) and (*g*) of question No. 648 answered on 26th November 1928, whether the Government have since finished the consideration of the Townshend Committee Report and have come to any decision thereon and whether a copy of their decisions will be placed on the Council table?

A.—The report is still under the consideration of Government.

Reduction of the rate of interest on loans to land mortgage banks.

*1202 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to my question No. 693 answered on 27th November 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the question of reducing the rate of interest on their loans to land mortgage banks and building societies; and

(*b*) what decision they have come to regarding the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The question is under consideration of the Government at present.

Fisheries

Closure of the Uppala Fish-curing yard in South Kanara district.

*1203 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have ordered the closure of Uppala Fish-curing yard in South Kanara district;

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 513 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix II on page 514 infra.

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(b) whether proposals have been received for opening a yard at Baikampadi ;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, when the yard will be opened ;

(d) whether the fishermen of Baikampadi offered to put up the necessary buildings and fence at their own cost ;

(e) whether the owners of land are willing to lease it to Government free of rent ; and

(f) whether, in view of these favourable circumstances, the Government propose to comply with the request of the fishermen to open a yard at least during 1929–30 ?

A.—(a), (b), (d) & (e) Yes.

(c) & (f) The Government intended to consider the proposal for the opening of a fish-curing yard at Baikampadi in connexion with the budget of 1929–30. As the Director of Fisheries expressed a doubt that, if the yard were opened in 1929–30, the fishermen might not be willing to put up the buildings which they originally promised to construct, the Government considered it advisable to get an assurance from the fishermen on the point and accordingly asked the Director to ascertain and report whether the fishermen would be willing to provide the buildings at their cost next year or agree to pay the cost by means of a cess, if provided at Government expense in the first instance. The Director's reply was not received in time for placing the proposal before the Finance Committee early this month. The proposal could not therefore be considered in connexion with the budget of 1929-30. The Director of Fisheries has been requested to resubmit the proposal again with full details for consideration as a budget scheme for 1930-31. If the fishermen want a yard earlier they have been advised to open one and run it as a private yard till next year obtaining salt from the department at concession rates.

Mr. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib :—" With reference to clause (a), may I know why it was closed ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" It was not working satisfactorily."

Supervision of fishermen co-operative societies.

* 1204 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the fishermen co-operative societies on the West Coast are under the direct supervision of the Fisheries department and that this work is treated as a part of the department's socio-economic work ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether any special staff has been engaged for the work of supervision of co-operative societies ;

(c) whether the existing staff of inspectors and sub-inspectors have other important duties which leave them no time either to supervise co-operative societies or inspect Fisheries schools ; and